Application No.: 10/591,524 Attorney Docket No. 04853.0136

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for deproteinizing natural rubber latex, comprising steps of:

adding a urea denaturing agent for proteins and a surfactant to raw natural rubber latex as the raw natural rubber latex flows through a fluid channel wherein the urea denaturing agent for proteins and the surfactant flow with the raw natural rubber latex;

transporting the mixture through the fluid channel while agitating and mixing to denature proteins in raw natural rubber latex at a temperature equal to or higher than 0 °C and lower than 30 °C for a period of 5 to 10 minutes; and

separating and removing the denatured proteins resulted from the previous step; wherein the proteins are sufficiently denature within 5 to 10 minutes.

- 2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the urea denaturing agent for proteins is used in the form of a 0.01% to 1% by weight aqueous solution.
- 3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the surfactant is used in the form of a 0.1% to 10% by weight aqueous solution.
- 4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the denatured proteins are separated and removed by centrifugation.

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5. (Original) The method according to claim 4, wherein the centrifugation is carried out at 500 G or higher.

6. (New) A method for deproteinizing natural rubber latex, comprising:
adding a urea denaturing agent for proteins and a surfactant to raw natural
rubber latex as the raw natural rubber latex flows through a fluid channel wherein the
urea denaturing agent for proteins and the surfactant flow with the raw natural rubber
latex:

transporting the mixture through the fluid channel while agitating and mixing to denature proteins in raw natural rubber latex at a temperature from 0 °C to 30 °C for a period from 5 minutes to less than 10 minutes; and

separating and removing the denatured proteins.

7. (New) A method for deproteinizing natural rubber latex, comprising:
adding a urea denaturing agent for proteins and a surfactant to raw natural
rubber latex as the raw natural rubber latex flows through a fluid channel wherein the
urea denaturing agent for proteins and the surfactant flow with the raw natural rubber
latex;

transporting the mixture through the fluid channel while agitating and mixing to denature proteins in raw natural rubber latex at a temperature equal to or higher than 0 °C and lower than 30 °C for a period from 5 minutes to less than 10 minutes; and separating and removing the denatured proteins.